


<b>BERLIN POLICE DEPARTMENT GENERAL ORDER</b>		
SUBJECT: COMMENDATIONS		
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ACCREDITATION STANDARDS: N/A	BY THE ORDER OF: Chief of Police Michael A Scheer	

## PURPOSE

The purpose of this policy is to establish a protocol for the earning and awarding of Departmental commendations.

## POLICY

- I. It is the policy of the Berlin Borough Police Department that commendations shall be awarded for heroism and/or outstanding duty or service
- II. It is the policy of the Berlin Borough Police Department that all Departmental Commendations be awarded following the procedures contained in this policy.
- III. It is the policy of the Berlin Borough Police Department that Departmental commendations be worthy of consideration according to the procedures in this policy, thereby eliminating ludicrous and meaningless awards

## PROCEDURE

### I. Berlin Police Department Service Awards:

1. **Distinguished Valor Citation:** For an act of outstanding courage, without regard to personal safety while in actual combat with an armed and dangerous adversary, resulting in serious injury to the Officer.



2. **Patriot Citation:** Dedication to the defense and protection of the flag of the United States. This Citation is provided to a Berlin Police Officer, upon date of hire.



3. **Gallantry Star Citation:** Awarded for the arrest of a person who is a major threat to the community of Berlin.



4. **Life Save Award:** For the actions taken by an Officer prior to the arrival of medical personnel that is directly responsible for the saving of a human life. A Life Save award may also be awarded to any Officer who demonstrates extraordinary effort in a futile attempt to save the life of a person, providing the greatest chance of survival.



5. **Special Response Team (SRT) Service Commendation:** Awarded to any former member of the Lower Camden County Regional Special Response Team (LCCRSRT) that has retired from the team in good standing, after three or more years of service. This award is issued in recognition of the members' service and dedication to both the LCCRSRT and the Berlin Police Department.



6. **Educational Citation:** Awarded to an Officer of the Berlin Police Department who has successfully graduated from the Federal Bureau of Investigation (FBI) National Academy and / or the New Jersey State Association's of Chief's of Police (NJSACOP) Command and Leadership Program.



7. **Valor Citation:** For an extraordinary act of outstanding courage, without regard for personal safety while in actual engagement with a dangerous adversary.



8. **Distinguished Unit Citation:** For a team effort, which resulted in the performance of outstanding public service. This Citation is awarded to each Officer involved in team effort.



9. **Negotiator's Laurel:** For an act, demonstrating extraordinary composure and / or exceptional verbal skills employed to de-escalate a situation that prevented a life threat.



10. **Honorable Service Citation:** Awarded for a credible act, which meets some, but not all of the requirements for other citations, showing initiative and accomplishment; a job well done.



11. **Meritorious Service Award:** Awarded for an accomplishment which resulted in the arrest of an armed and dangerous subject, which also prevented injury or death to the officer or another.



12. **Drug Buster Award:** Awarded for the successful arrest of a narcotic criminal, generated by an officer in cases that result in the arrest charges of a suspect for distributing narcotics, or in possession of an abnormal quantity of narcotics.



13. **Distinguished Community Citation:** Awarded for the services which resulted in extraordinary or outstanding performance of community relations or community service.



14. **National Defense Citation:** Awarded to an Officer who have been honorarily discharged or who are currently serving in a branch of the United States Armed Forces.



15. **K9 Handler Commendation:** Awarded to a Berlin Police K9 Officer who successfully completed three or more years of service as a Police K9 Handler.



- II. Any officer who has ribbons or medals from any other law enforcement agency which he/she was entitled to wear in that agency may wear them on his/her uniform if he/she submits proof of the award to the Chief of Police along with approval from the Chief of Police.
- III. Submission of Commendation nominations:
  - 1. Any officer, regardless of rank, can recommend in writing to the Chief's office or to the Awards Committee, another officer for a commendation regardless of that person's rank. This shall be done via the *Guardian Tracking Software*.
  - 2. When recommending an Officer for a Commendation, you must cite which citation from the list above.
  - 3. The Chief of Police or his designee or the assigned Awards Committee will review the nomination. After a decision is made, the nominee will be notified accordingly.